

NEWS RELEASE

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Department of Workforce Development partnership to revamp Labor Market Information systems moves forward

Labor market information needs assessment survey will assist local and state information users to make more informed choices concerning workforce and economic reforms

Indianapolis, Ind. - Today the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (IDWD) announced that the partnership with the Indiana Business Research Center (IBRC) and the Center for Urban Policy and the Environment (CUPE) is moving forward to assist local and regional stakeholders in making more informed decisions when investing in workforce and economic opportunities.

Ron Stiver, Commissioner for the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, stated, "Good information drives good decision-making and this partnership is aimed at creating a labor market information system that will be used by Indiana employers, policymakers and economic analysts in making critical decisions to increase employment and income for Hoosiers."

The next step in the IDWD partnership with IBRC and CUPE is to listen to the needs of information users at local and state levels through an on-line survey. The information from this survey will be used to revamp the current system and provide labor market information in ways that will help local and regional stakeholders have a greater impact on economic and workforce development in Indiana. This represents the next step in developing the nation's premiere labor market information system. Prior to the survey, focus groups were held across the state to gain feedback from key stakeholders.

Carol Rogers, Associate Director of the Indiana Business Research Center, believes the information that will be gathered from the on-line survey is vital. "The needs assessment survey is a great opportunity for information users around the state to provide critical input that will be used to help shape the way labor market information is utilized."

John Krauss, Director of the Center for Urban Policy and the Environment, stated, "Determining what types of data are useful to employers and policymakers will be extremely important because it can be used to enhance Indiana's ability to attract businesses and provide quality jobs for the people of Indiana."

For more information on the Labor Market Information Needs Assessment Survey, please contact IBRC at 317-274-2979 or at ibrc@iupui.edu.

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